

SENATE BILL 2758

By Yarbrow

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39,  
Chapter 17, Part 4, relative to possession of  
marijuana by combat-wounded veterans.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-17-418(a), is amended by  
deleting the subsection in its entirety and substituting instead the following:

(a) It is an offense for a person to knowingly possess or casually exchange a  
controlled substance, unless:

(1) The substance was obtained directly from, or pursuant to, a valid  
prescription or order of a practitioner while acting in the course of professional  
practice; or

(2) The substance is marijuana, and the person possessing the  
marijuana is a veteran of the United States armed forces who has been awarded  
the Purple Heart and retains proof of:

(A) The person's certificate of release or discharge from active  
duty, department of defense form 214 (DD 214), indicating that the  
person has been awarded the Purple Heart; and

(B) A legal order or recommendation from a licensed doctor of  
medicine or doctor of osteopathic medicine that states that the person is  
likely to receive therapeutic or palliative benefit from the medical use of  
marijuana;

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018, the public welfare requiring it.